Former campus student reexamines JFK's death

By William Kelley Eidem

When Harry Livingstone learned to read x-rays from his best friend Dr. Ron Siple, now chief radiologist at Maryland General in Baltimore, little did he know it might become the key to proving government participation in the murder of President John F. Kennedy.

In 1978 Livingstone, who was a campus student in the mid fifties, obtained a copy of the House Select Committee on Assassinations report. He saw the photos of front and side x-rays purported to be those of the president's skull. Livingstone noticed what he thought were discrepancies between what he saw and what was reported by doctors performing the autopsy at Bethesda Naval Hospital.

"I'm sitting there reading all this stuff, and I'm thinking how could they be so different," he said.

In a Baltimore tavern in 1969, Dr. Siple confirmed for Livingstone what he had suspected. "It locked me in. I knew it was the hottest thing ever."

At the moment he confirmed his discovery was correct, he was filled with "excitement, fear, anxiety and horror." Those feelings came in part from knowing how much work it would take to get the information out to the public, but the rest came from prior bad experiences from researching the case.

After he made other comparatively smaller breakthroughs while researching the case, Livingstone said he was beaten up and tormented, which he believed were designed to intimidate him and get him off the case.

But inspite of his fears he continued researching the case and self published his first book on the assassination in 1989. in spite of being self published *High Treason* became a New York Times best seller. Since then he has written two other books on JFK, including his recent book *Killing The Truth*.

The last few weeks have been a whirlwind, with radio interviews across the country, including an hour on the nationally broadcast CBS radio network on Nov. 22, the thirtieth anniversary of the president's death.

But that date should not have anything to do with public interest in the case, he said. "We can't live in a country where a government is controlled from the wings with guns, where assassination is used as a political instrument," he said in an interview at his home in Baltimore.

In the week before the assassination's anniversary at a press conference in New York, Livingstone introduced a radiologist with a PhD. in physics who corroborated once again Livingstone's earlier discovery. Livingstone said that according to the autopsists and the seven doctors in Dallas, there should have been a large hole behind Kennedy's right ear.

Dr. Mantik, who examined the original x-rays with a dositometer and with the permission of the Kennedy family, found that the white area in that part of the president's skull was 1,000 times what is found in a normal x-ray, thus confirming a fraudulent tampering with the x-rays in an attempt to hide a rear exit wound.

Dr. Mantik's confirmation of Livingstone's discovery means "the beginning of the end of the cover-up." The press conference, "went

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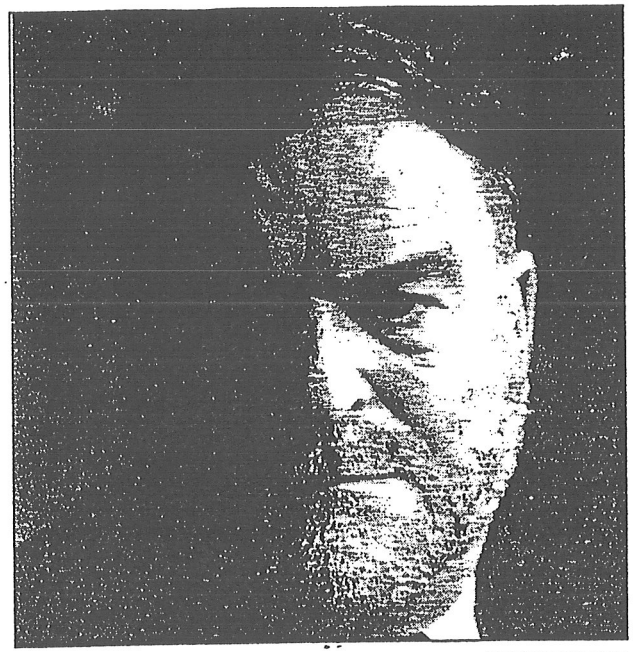

Photo by Jed Kirschbaum

Harry Livingstone believes X-ray evidence proves a conspiracy.

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on with the exception of the U.S., but that "pressure" will eventually come to the U.S." Livingstone said.

"The people know, the people know," Livingstone said, quoting Carl Sandburg.

Livingstone is already hard at work again, writing his fourth book on the subject. "I don't have a life," but he feels his work is of vital importance to the future of the country.

"It was a coup d'etat. You can't allow that to happen."

Livingstone has traveled a long way since his years as a student on the campus.

"It was the worst experience I had in my life," he said.

Livingstone ended up working as a dish washer before ultimately enrolling in classes and graduating from Harvard University.